

## Clayton, Carrie

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**From:** Anderson, Israel  
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## Region 6 EJ Showcase Community: Port Arthur, TX

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## Overview

EPA Region 6 is developing and implementing a comprehensive, cross-media project in this diverse city. More than 50 percent of its residents are African American and Hispanic. The city has many facilities including chemical plants, refineries and a hazardous waste incinerator. This project is being developed, with the support of other government agencies, in response to community-based organizations who have called upon EPA to look at the cumulative effects of multiple environmental impacts in Port Arthur.

## Successes

- Supported community forums on improving the quality of life for Port Arthur Westside residents.
- Engaged in partnerships with Port Arthur stakeholders and industry leading to a \$1,000,000 award for a construction of a Health Clinic on the Westside of Port Arthur Texas.
- Received significant support from Administrator Jackson
- Conducted Healthy Home trainings and health outreach for 60 neighborhood residents.
- Provided emergency response training to 75 community representatives
- Supported air quality and job training and education of over 100 families on energy conservation.
- Provided school chemical cleanout training to more than 30 science teachers.
- Supported revitalization by leveraging \$329,598 worth of Brownfield assessments on 1,300 properties.

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## History



EPA Region 6 is developing and implementing a comprehensive, cross-media project in the West side community of Port Arthur, Texas. The project involves governmental officials, religious leaders, industrial officials, community leaders and citizens in a collaborative community-based approach to improve the community's public health and the environment. Over the last 12 months, an action plan for the project was developed. This action plan resulted in three grants and contract support for outreach and community meeting activities. The three grants included:

- A Healthy Homes Outreach Project, University of Texas Foundation in collaboration with University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and Community In Power and Development Association,

- An After School Environmental Science Lab Project, Tekoa Charter School, and
- The Golden Triangle Empowerment Center Job Training Program.

The primary contract support activity involves the development of an EPA 'Environmental Profile' outreach document. The environmental profile will be a clear concise outreach document that summarizes joint EPA and State evaluations of the best available information about environmental conditions (e.g., data and predictive tools). A City – EPA, two-day EJ Summit in Port Arthur, Texas occurred on November 8-9, 2010. The summit brought together stakeholders to discuss thoughtful strategies and approaches to improve the quality of life for Port Arthur residents. The facilitated dialogue highlighted several crucial challenges that could be effectively addressed through a thoughtful local, state and federal collaboration.

Throughout 2011, efforts will be made to begin to address six critically important issues that were identified at the EJ Summit and formalized in Port Arthur's EJ Plan. These issues will be addressed by the formation of six issue specific workgroups composed of a cross-section of stakeholders.

There are a number of results expected from the EJ Showcase Community project. The environmental profile outreach document will inform the public of federal and state permits and authorizations, and identify opportunities for input into permit conditions. The Port Arthur EJ Plan is expected to impact environmental quality, promote the revitalization of the Downtown and Westside areas, address unemployment and significant health care challenges, improve the energy efficiency of residences, and facilitate alternative housing for residents of the Carver Terrace Assisted Housing Project.

For additional information about the Region 6 Showcase Initiative, contact [Israel Anderson](mailto:anderson.israel@epa.gov) (anderson.israel@epa.gov), the Region 6 Associate Director for Environmental Justice at 214-665-3138.

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## Golden Triangle Empowerment Center, Port Arthur, Texas

**BACKGROUND** The non-profit Golden Triangle Empowerment Center (GTEC) is designed to help residents get the necessary work skills to become successful workers in the industrial boom taking place in Port Arthur.

The organization has already built a solid foundation in Austin, where Digital Workforce Academy (DWA) first job training program has an 80 percent success rate. The non-profit DWA has been providing training to the vulnerable and disenfranchised in Austin since 1990s. DWA is parent organization of GTEC.

DWA partnered with Motiva, Contex and other community outreach programs to organize the creation of GTEC for Southeast Texas — a process that took nearly 14 months. The inaugural class started October 15, 2007. GTEC partners include: Port Arthur Industrial Advisory Group, Port Arthur Independent School District, Port Arthur Chamber of Commerce, City of Port Arthur, Jefferson County Commissioners Court, Digital Workforce Academy, Members of the Ministers Alliance, Port Arthur Industrial group.

The GTEC 10 week program consists of two components – Life skills and Job Training. The focus is on developing people verses training them. GTEC provides life-skills training to help participants keep the job after getting placed.

**PROGRAM** Persons who are US citizens, 18 years of age living in the Beaumont, Port Arthur, Orange and surrounding counties, are eligible for the program. Applicants complete application, sign a GTEC Code of Conduct, and are interviewed. Classes are held Mon.-Thurs. 6:30-9:30 pm. Graduates enter the GTEC tracking system.

### PHASE I - PRE-VOCATIONAL

- Intake Process
- T.A.B.E - Testing for Adult Basic Education
- Drug Screening
- Criminal Background Investigations
- Counseling will be provided to participants needing support.
- LIFESKILLS training (values and goals, what new workers need to know, transferable skills, career needs and wants, overcoming fear, career and life goals)

### PHASE II

- National Center for Construction Education and Research core curriculum
- Basic pipe fitter Level 1
- Safety
- Job Development (resume, interviewing, job readiness)

### PHASE III - POST VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- Job placement
- Tracking system for participants
- Weekly reviews with workers / employer, Mentoring Coaching Transition

**STATUS** GTEC had a grand opening of its new downtown storefront operation on May 25, 2010. DWA/GTEC's new facility is located on the city of Port Arthur's main street (Proctor St). The Proctor Street site is a renovated former central business district structure (former Woolworths/Penneys retail building). The 21,000 square foot facility includes a training center on the first floor while the 2nd floor is a small business incubator. The facility is located across the street from a local monument, the former Sabine Hotel.



Port Arthur's main street (Proctor Street) is in desperate need of similar storefront operations to increase downtown foot traffic. The DWA/GTEC facility's opening will provide significant positive momentum for Pt Arthur's downtown revitalization. Building renovation included indoor asbestos abatement (US Department of Commerce Economic Development Agency EDA grant funded). EDA has provided (2008-2009) a total of about \$2.4M to support the creation of the Center. Temporary GTEC training operations will be moved from the Pt Arthur Stillwell Boulevard facility to the new downtown location.

In 2010, GTEC acquired the site adjacent to the new down town facility (i.e., the "Port Arthur City Limits" building) for future expansion. EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team is providing DWA/GTEC with a free environmental site

assessment under its Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) program, to help assure the "Port Arthur City Limits" site reuse is protective of human health and the environment.

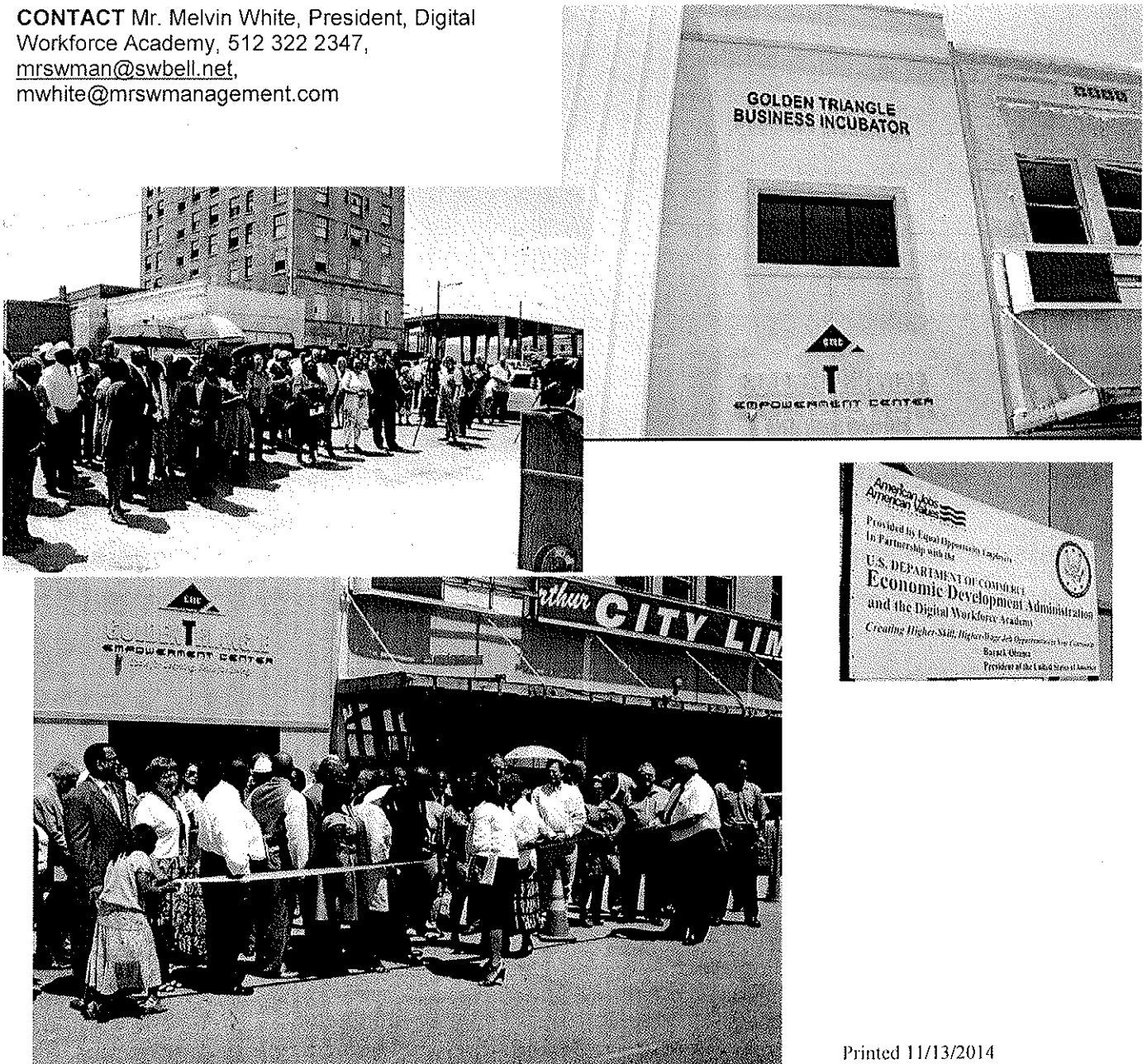
Based on DWA's intent to acquire the vacant and blighted Sabine Hotel from the city for a redevelopment project, the Brownfields Team is also providing the Port Arthur community a free TBA service on that property. Other 2009-2010, TBA project in Port Arthur include: World Trade Center building, and Port Arthur News. The Region 6 Brownfields Team is also providing the community with a site inventory and preliminary assessment of the downtown area which will assist the overall downtown revitalization effort.

In April, EDA announced another grant (\$750,000) to the Port Arthur community to encourage the revitalization of the downtown. DWA/GTEC is a collaborative partner and local leader on the implementation of this grant project. The project will involve the implementation of the Downtown Master Plan (including marketing), with the Port Arthur Downtown Renewal Association coordinating with the city and other stakeholders to initiate and complete commercial and retail projects to stimulate the local economy.

On June 3, 2010, the EPA Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (OEJTA), provided DWA with a EJ Small Grant to support the existing Job Training program being implemented in Port Arthur area.

The Brownfields Team is working with DWA as a potential candidate for a Brownfields Job Training (\$200k) grant.

**CONTACT** Mr. Melvin White, President, Digital Workforce Academy, 512 322 2347, [mrsyman@swbell.net](mailto:mrsyman@swbell.net), [mwhite@mrsmanagement.com](mailto:mwhite@mrsmanagement.com)



## **Tekoa Charter School, Port Arthur, Texas**

**BACKGROUND** On Nov. 17, 2009, the EPA announced a national initiative to address EJ challenges in 10 communities across the country. The selected Environmental Justice (EJ) Showcase Communities will use collaborative, community-based approaches to improve public health and the environment. These demonstration 2 year projects will test and share information on different approaches to increase EPA's ability to achieve environmental results in communities. Stakeholders will work together to address complex and interrelated environmental and public health, economic, and social problems. The Port Arthur, Texas, Westside community will serve as the EJ Showcase Community for the five state (TX, AR, OK, LA, NM) EPA Region 6 area.

Tekoa Academy of Accelerated Studies has a campus located in the Westside. Tekoa is a non-profit state funded charter school, unique and separate from Port Arthur Independent School District (PAISD). On March 29, 2010, EPA Region 6 OEJTA solicited a grant proposal from Tekoa for a project benefiting the Port Arthur Westside community. This was outside the normal EJ Small Grant competition cycle but EJ Small Grant CFDA authorities were used for actual award. The small grant (less than \$15,000) competition policy exception was used for the award. Funds used for grant award were EJ Showcase Community funds provided in 2009 by OEJ. Tekoa submitted a proposal, which was ultimately selected for funding, requesting support of an after school environmental science lab project.

### **PROGRAM**

- After school environmental science lab program will target students grades 5 thru 8
- Entire process will be documented through photography and newsletters
- GLOBE program will inform local project ([www.globe.gov](http://www.globe.gov), sponsored by NASA, NOAA, NSF, Dept State)
  - GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) is a worldwide hands-on, primary and secondary school-based science and education program. GLOBE's vision promotes and supports students, teachers and scientists to collaborate on inquiry-based investigations of the environment and the Earth system working in close partnership with NASA and NSF Earth System Science Projects (ESSPs) in study and research about the dynamics of Earth's environment.
  - Announced in 1994, GLOBE began operations on Earth Day 1995. Today, the international GLOBE network has grown to include representatives from 111 participating countries coordinating GLOBE activities that are integrated into their local and regional communities. Due to their efforts, there are more than 50,000 GLOBE-trained teachers representing over 23,000 schools around the world.
- Students will meet beginning September 7-10, 2010 to brainstorm ideas of what 'air quality' means to them: teacher created activities that allow creativity and open-mindedness (clean air vs. polluted air)
- September 13-16, 2010: students will research Clean Air Act, Criteria Pollutants, Community Right to Know
- September 20-23, 2010: students will review geographic areas of possible air quality evaluations
- September 27-30: students will generate 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter of Air Quality at Tekoa
- October 4-7: students will learn GLOBE protocol for gathering information
- October 11-14: students will study the benefits of recycling (video: Stuff)
- October 18-21: students will upload data to webpage for review by Texas Southern University (TSU, Houston campus, collaborator on project) students
- October 25-28: students will travel to TSU (virtual: using Polycom / or actual TSU campus visit)
- November 1-4: students will generate 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter of Air Quality at Tekoa
- November 8-11: students will invite community members for informational sessions on maintaining clean air: (1) reduce, recycle & reuse (2) expert panel
- November 15-19: students will generate 3<sup>rd</sup> newsletter of Air Quality at Tekoa
- Grant Project closeout during Dec 2010 and Jan 2011

**STATUS** EPA EJ Small Grant EQ00F11501 of \$14,550 awarded to Tekoa on May 26, 2010.

**CONTACT** Ms. Paula Richardson, CEO, [prichardson@tekoacharterschool.org](mailto:prichardson@tekoacharterschool.org), 409 338 9467; Ms. Hamila Taylor, Curriculum and Instructional Coordinator, [taylor4science@yahoo.com](mailto:taylor4science@yahoo.com), 409 982 5400

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6, EJ Showcase Community Project

## Port Arthur, Texas - Work Plan, Activities Status – TRACKING TOOL (LAST UPDATE 9/10/10)

Prepared by EPA Region 6 Office of Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs (OEJTA). Internal document.

Activity, Milestone, and Schedule	Output	Contact or Lead	Status and Recent Activities
<p>Outreach on local Emergency Response plans, conduct workshop and participate in local notification exercise</p> <p>Workshop May 2010 Notification Exercise Nov 2010</p>	<p>Conduct workshop to facilitate communication between emergency planners and community groups</p> <p>Participate in local notification exercise to assist identification of gaps/recommendations</p> <p>Continue after action briefs</p> <p>Assist LEPC to communicate hazards, plans to community groups</p>	<p>Mark Hansen (6SF) 214 665 7548 <a href="mailto:Hansen.mark@epa.gov">Hansen.mark@epa.gov</a> Steve Mason (6SF-PE) 214 665 2276 <a href="mailto:Mason.steve@epa.gov">Mason.steve@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>Workshop conducted April 28, 2010</p> <p>Last 6/30/10 email update from Mark Hansen. Scheduling of notification exercise postponed to Nov/Dec timeframe due to other priorities.</p>
<p>Outreach on local Emergency Response planning Workshop April 2010</p>	<p>April 10, 2010, Disaster Preparedness Symposium</p>	<p>John Owens (Deputy Police Chief) 409 983 8616 <a href="mailto:jowens@portarthurpd.com">jowens@portarthurpd.com</a></p>	<p>Workshop conducted April 10, 2010</p>
<p>Provide Citizen Emergency Response Training (CERT) to Westside Training July 2011</p>	<p>Training opportunity offered to Westside residents</p>	<p>John Owens (Deputy Police Chief) 409 983 8616 <a href="mailto:jowens@portarthurpd.com">jowens@portarthurpd.com</a></p>	<p>Jefferson County needs to schedule next session. One next training session logistics set, OEJTA needs to get info from locals and do outreach (email alert) to Westside residents about training opportunity.</p> <p>6/30/10 email update from Greg Fountain (County). New county staff contact (Rachel Lindsay) provided for updates on scheduling effort</p> <p>8/18/10 email traffic Lindsay, training schedule/date still pending</p>

Activity, Milestone, and Schedule	Output	Contact or Lead	Status and Recent Activities
<p>Inform community about EPA state wide initiative to improve Texas Clean Air Act (CAA) Permits</p> <p>Status summary      Periodic</p>	<p>Review public comments to ensure that comments are responded to appropriately.</p> <p>Initiate a dialogue on Port Arthur area permits with TCEQ.</p> <p>Provide periodic updates to community on initiative and Port Arthur specific permit matters (e.g., input to existing quarterly newsletter, web posting of permit comment letters in the area)</p>	<p>Jeff Robinson (6PD-R) 214 665 6435 <a href="mailto:robinson.jeffrey@epa.gov">robinson.jeffrey@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>??</p>
<p>Evaluate air quality in Port Arthur area for outreach effort to community</p> <p>Release of results      Oct 2010</p>	<p>Review and compile existing air quality data for Port Arthur area.</p> <p>Identify data gaps.</p> <p>Provide public with clear information (2-3 page summary document) about what is known about surface air quality in Port Arthur, how it may affect the local population, and what is being done to address problem areas.</p> <p>Plan activities, as appropriate to address data gaps</p>	<p>Maria Martinez (6PD-Q) 214 665 2230 <a href="mailto:martinez.maria@epa.gov">martinez.maria@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>6/23 and 8/17 emails alerting program of potential need to expedite activity due to decision to proceed with Environmental Profile concept</p> <p>This product will be source document for Env Profile</p> <p>Dep Dir meeting 7/20, OEJTA management direction 8/10, meeting w/program 8/17 &amp; 18 – Program input needed for package submittal to REPA EPA contractor – by mid Oct</p> <p>Package needs to include narrative summary and supporting graphics, if available/appropriate</p>

Activity, Milestone, and Schedule	Output	Contact or Lead	Status and Recent Activities
Conduct outreach education on asthma environmental triggers	Training, development and distribution of educational materials, and developing partnerships	Paula Seizer (6PD-T) 214 665 6663 <a href="mailto:seizer.paula@epa.gov">seizer.paula@epa.gov</a>	Based on 6PD email, OEJTA 7/12 prompted Tekoa and PAISD to request asthma workshop from SW Center for Pediatric Env Health (SWCPEH, UT Tyler) 7/12 Tekoa responded positively (will request) 7/27 6PD discussion with PAISD (re: TFS), also interested in PEHSU/SWCPEH workshop (staph infections, head lice, asthma, and other children's health topics) 8/18 OEJTA checked status; based on 8/26 email from SWCPEH, there is a commitment to bring workshop to area but all the details need to be worked out (players: PAISD, Tekoa, 6PD staff, SWCPEH)
Promote EPA's Healthy School Environments Programs to public and charter schools in the Westside community including: Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Tools for Schools (TFS), Integrated Pest Management Chemical Management  Summary July 2011	District faculty and staff trained practical strategies to identify, prioritize, correct, and prevent common IAQ problems	Stacy Murphy (6PD-T) 214 665 7116 <a href="mailto:Murphy.stacy@epa.gov">Murphy.stacy@epa.gov</a>	OEJTA should check status in 10/10 Obtaining local school contacts (PAISD, Tekoa) commitment to TFS program was a challenge. 6PD staff held good 7/27 conf call with PAISD. 6PD staff may coordinate UTMB with PAISD as technical resource (discussed during 8/12 conf call for separate EJ Small Grant).  OEJTA should check status in 10/10
Describe applicability of Texas water quality standards to water bodies in the Port Arthur area.  Review the State of Texas' most recent assessment of surface water quality data collected in the Port Arthur area against the State's water quality standards, as well as data/information from other State agencies (fish/oyster consumption and beach advisory data) relevant to Port Arthur.  Release of results Oct 2010	Provide public with clear information about what is known about surface water quality in Port Arthur and vicinity, how it may affect the local population, and what is being done to address problem areas.  2-3 page summary document  Educate the public about where to find more information.	Diane Evans (6WQ-EW) 214-665-6677 <a href="mailto:evans.diane@epa.gov">evans.diane@epa.gov</a>  Mike Schaub (6WQ-EA) 214-665-7314 <a href="mailto:schaub.mike@epa.gov">schaub.mike@epa.gov</a>	6/23 and 8/17 emails alerting program of potential need to expedite activity due to decision to proceed with Environmental Profile concept  This product will be source document for Env Profile  Dep Dir meeting 7/20, OEJTA management direction 8/10, meeting w/program 8/17 & 18 – Program input needed for package submittal to REPA EPA contractor – by mid Oct Package needs to include narrative summary and supporting graphics, if available/appropriate

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<p>Review local public water system for compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act and state requirements</p> <p>Release of results    Dec 2010</p>	<p>Conduct a joint Comprehensive Performance Evaluation of city water treatment plant with TCEQ</p> <p>Results document</p>	<p>Blake Atkins (6WQ-SD) 214-665-2297 <a href="mailto:atkins.blake@epa.gov">atkins.blake@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>8/18/10 email update - Program conducted field work week of 6/28.</p> <p>Summary/report coming, per 9/7 email from Blake.</p> <p>Hopefully, report summary will make good base for Env Profile input re: local drinking water</p> <p>Meet with staff 8/5 to touch base</p>
<p>Review NPDES Permits (publicly owned wastewater, industrial, storm water) in area</p> <p>Summary Release    July 2011</p>	<p>Conduct review</p> <p>Data summary of area NPDES permits review (discharges, limits, compliance status)</p>	<p>Rich Wooster (6WQ-PO) 214 665 6473 <a href="mailto:Wooster.richard@epa.gov">Wooster.richard@epa.gov</a> Josh Waldmeier (6WQ-PO) 214 665 8064 <a href="mailto:Waldmeier.joshua@epa.gov">Waldmeier.joshua@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>Program owes OEJTA with info on period when area NPDES permits renewal targeted outreach can be planned (part of Nov Comm Meeting, next Project Update?)</p> <p>Program plans provide input to help explain listing of various NPDES area permits (Env Profile)</p>
<p>Review EPA Urban Waters initiative (UWI) for nexus in Port Arthur area</p> <p>Provide Information regarding Urban Waters Initiative. Educate/Inform community Leaders.</p> <p>Review complete    July 2011</p>	<p>Educate local partners about UWI</p> <p>Provide education/outreach to community leaders regarding processes, which may include grants and application process, if applicable</p>	<p>Adele Cardenas-Malott (6WQ) 214-665-7210 <a href="mailto:cardenas.adele@epa.gov">cardenas.adele@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>Port Arthur nominated for UW Pilot consideration during 8/11 cross-program UW staff/team meeting. No funds currently associated with Pilot designation but possibility of future funding.</p> <p>UW Pilot nomination prepared by OEJTA and sent to 6WQ 8/19. Federal partners currently reviewing Pt Arthur Urban Water pilot nomination.</p>
<p>Review existing groundwater data for potential vapor intrusion</p> <p>Summary    Oct 2010</p>	<p>Review data and prepare summary of findings and data gaps, if any</p> <p>Determine whether vapor intrusion investigation is warranted</p>	<p>Chuck Hendrickson (6PD) 214 665 2196 <a href="mailto:Hendrickson.charles@epa.gov">Hendrickson.charles@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>6/23 and 8/17 emails alerting program of potential need to expedite activity due to decision to proceed with Environmental Profile concept</p> <p>Dep Dir meeting 7/20, OEJTA management direction 8/10, meeting w/program 8/17 &amp; 18 – Program input needed for package submittal to REPA EPA contractor – by mid Oct</p> <p>Package needs to include narrative summary and supporting graphics, if available/appropriate</p> <p>6PD report provided 8/5</p> <p>Email clarification/summary 8/9</p>

Activity, Milestone, and Schedule	Output	Contact or Lead	Status and Recent Activities
<p>Identify/prepare sites for cleanup or reuse by providing Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA), site specific environmental assessments</p> <p>Reports July 2011</p>	<p>Environmental assessment reports for: 1) World Trade Bldg, 2) Port Arthur News Bldg, 3) Port Arthur City Limits/Kress Bldg, 4) Sabine Hotel, 5) 501 Proctor</p>	<p>Monica Smith (6SF-VB) 214 665 6780 <a href="mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov">smith.monica@epa.gov</a> Tony Roberson (6SF-VB) 214 665 2235 <a href="mailto:Roberson.tony@epa.gov">Roberson.tony@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>6/21 email update from program (Tony Roberson 6SF-VB)</p> <p>5 Environmental Site Assessment projects, to date, at various stages of execution (e.g., planning, field work, final report). Status report on 8/3 for 5 site specific projects:</p> <p>World Trade – field work done, report started</p> <p>Pt A News – ACM/LP report due, Ph I report pending</p> <p>City Limit/Kress – Ph I report done (8/26/10 email), ACM/LP field work week of 8/9</p> <p>Sabine Hotel – Ph I work pending</p> <p>501 Proctor – Ph I work pending</p> <p>TBA could lead to grant for site cleanup before revitalization/reuse</p> <p>6SF-VB 8/11/10 grant work shop in Port Arthur</p> <p>9/10/10 phone call from 6SF-VB, projects progressing.</p>
<p>Assist Downtown revitalization effort by providing Targeted Brownfields Assessment, area wide environmental assessment and site inventory</p> <p>Report July 2011</p>	<p>TBA Report of area wide inventory and assessment</p>	<p>Monica Smith (6SF-VB) 214 665 6780 <a href="mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov">smith.monica@epa.gov</a> Tony Roberson (6SF-VB) 214 665 2235 <a href="mailto:Roberson.tony@epa.gov">Roberson.tony@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>Activity in early stages (contract action).</p> <p>9/10/10 phone call from 6SF-VB, project milestone reached (funding resolved).</p>
<p>Develop or enhance local lead paint hazard outreach program</p>	<p>Outreach materials</p>	<p>Cindy Parker (6PD-T) 214 665 7291 <a href="mailto:Parker.cindy@epa.gov">Parker.cindy@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>6/23 email update from program indicated outreach effort (mail out) imminent</p>
<p>Conduct Health Awareness Outreach Events</p> <p>Events July 2011</p>	<p>Conduct health awareness events to provide community with guidance and information on a holistic approach to health (e.g., smoking, nutrition, exercise, high blood pressure)</p>	<p>Dr. Hilda Sheppard ATSDR 770 488 0734 <a href="mailto:Hhs2@cdc.gov">Hhs2@cdc.gov</a></p>	<p>Activity on hold till fall 2010</p> <p>Need to locate travel funds for ATSDR staff to travel to community</p> <p>7/2/10 - OEJTA will not be requesting OEJ support of ATSDR travel costs</p>
<p>Brownfields Job Training Grant Outreach</p> <p>Conference Call April 2010</p>	<p>Provide grant outreach to eligible entities (e.g., Golden Triangle Empowerment Center, PAEDC)</p>	<p>Monica Smith (6SF-VB) 214 665 6780, <a href="mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov">smith.monica@epa.gov</a></p>	<p>6/23 verbal update from program</p> <p>Ongoing 6SF-VB coordination w/local candidate 6SF-VB 8/11 grant work shop</p>

Activity, Milestone, and Schedule	Output	Contact or Lead	Status and Recent Activities
<p>Review EPA Small Business program for nexus in Port Arthur area</p> <p>Provide information regarding Small Business encouragement or growth. Educate/Inform community Leaders.</p> <p>Review complete July 2011</p>	<p>Educate local partners about EPA Small Business program</p> <p>Provide education/outreach to community leaders regarding avenues to do business with EPA, which may include grants, contracts and subcontracting opportunities, if applicable</p>	<p>Deborah Bradford (6MD-CP) 214 665 7406 Bradford.debora@epa.gov</p>	<p>6/18/10 staff level meeting</p> <p>Possibility of coordinating grant outreach with small business outreach events in community</p> <p>Program requesting support (funding) from its HQ</p> <p>Last contact 8/9/10, regional program working on possibly SBA type meeting in Pt A</p>
<p>Support local job training program EPA Grant award Sept 2010 (\$14,800)</p>	<p>Provide funding to support Golden Triangle Empowerment Center (GTEC) existing environmental training</p>	<p>Dot Crawford (6RA-DJ) 214 665 2771 crawford.dorothy@epa.gov</p>	<p>EJ Small Grant 6/3/10 award (Digital Workforce Academy DWA, EQ00F11401)</p> <p>Non-profit on-line EPA training certs (2) - done</p> <p>6/24 grant kickoff conf call with grantee Quarterly (&amp; possibly final report) due 10/30/10</p> <p>7/20 &amp; 8/3 grant drawdowns</p> <p>Grant to closeout soon. Linda F has file and status report.</p>
<p>Inform local leaders of recent state and federal environmental inspections at facilities</p> <p>List Quarterly</p>	<p>Provide local leaders a list of inspections conducted by EPA and state during the preceding fiscal quarter at facilities in Jefferson County</p>	<p>Connie Overbay (6EN-X) 214 665 7274 Overbay.connie@epa.gov</p>	<p>3/25/10 and 8/4/10 email sent recent inspection lists to local leaders (PAEDC, PAIG)</p> <p>6/9 email communication with program</p> <p>Next report due from 6EN to OEJTA at end of Oct for July- Sept '10 period. Report to be sent to local leaders by OEJTA.</p> <p>Event conducted March 16, 2010</p>
<p>Share information about local government and industry efforts to assist Westside Outreach Event March 2010</p> <p>Conduct community outreach on potential buffer zone creation Meetings July 2011</p>	<p>March 16, 2010, SETXRPC event regarding Lighthouse program "100 year home milestone"</p> <p>Public meetings to discuss residents input on the possibility of ultimately creating buffer zones between homes and industry</p>	<p>Pamela Lewis, SETXRPC 409 899 8444 plewis@setxrpc.org</p> <p>John Beard (Councilman) 409 983 8267 jbeardjr@portarthur.net</p>	<p>Originally scheduled for 3/15, revised tentative date mid-June</p> <p>Need to check with local leader about meeting schedule</p>

Activity, Milestone, and Schedule	Output	Contact or Lead	Status and Recent Activities
Tekoa Charter School after school environmental science lab EPA Grant award Sept 2010 (\$14,550)	Implement an after school environmental science lab project to engage students, teachers, parents and stakeholders in area air quality issues  Provide funding to support project	Paula Richardson, CEO 409 338 9467 prichardson@tekoachartrrschool.org	EJ Small Grant 5/26/10 award (EQ00F11501)  Mandatory training certificates sent to EPA  6/28 and 6/29 grant kickoff conf calls with grantee Grantee needs to register on EFT Quarterly report due 10/30/10  EPA provided non-profit training for Ms. Taylor  When project complete need summary and photos or video  Linda F has file and status report.
UTMB/CIDA Indoor Air education project EPA Grant award Sept 2010 (\$14,799)	Implement a project where locals are trained by UTMB to visit residents' homes regarding indoor air issues	Sharon Petronella 409 772 3879 spetrone@utmb.edu	EJ Small Grant 6/21/10 award (EQ00F15501)  Grantee informed about need for EFT  Mandatory training certificates sent to EPA  Kickoff conf call 8/12/10  Quarterly report due 10/30/10  Budget revision (amendment) finalized by GMO 9/10/10  Linda F has file and status report.
Prepare an "Environmental Profile" for Port Arthur area Document July 2011 EPA Task Order award Aug 12 '10 (\$46,776)	Develop and annually update a clear concise outreach document, targeted to area/community, that summarizes EPA evaluation of best available information (e.g., data, predictive tools) about area environmental conditions and inform public of all federal/state permits/authorizations, and opportunities for input into permit conditions.	Steve Gilrein (6EN) 214 665 8179 Gilrein.stephen@epa.gov	REPA Task order award 8/12/10 \$46,776 Purchase Request PR-R6-10-0019, Task Order number DTOS-06030  Dep Dir Meeting re: Env Profile 7/20 & 9/9 Meeting with Shirley & Deb 8/5 Meeting with Jeannine 8/10 Meeting with EPA staff 8/17 & 18  Program input needed for package submittal to REPA EPA contractor – by mid Oct Package needs to include narrative summary and supporting graphics, if available/appropriate

## REGION 6: PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

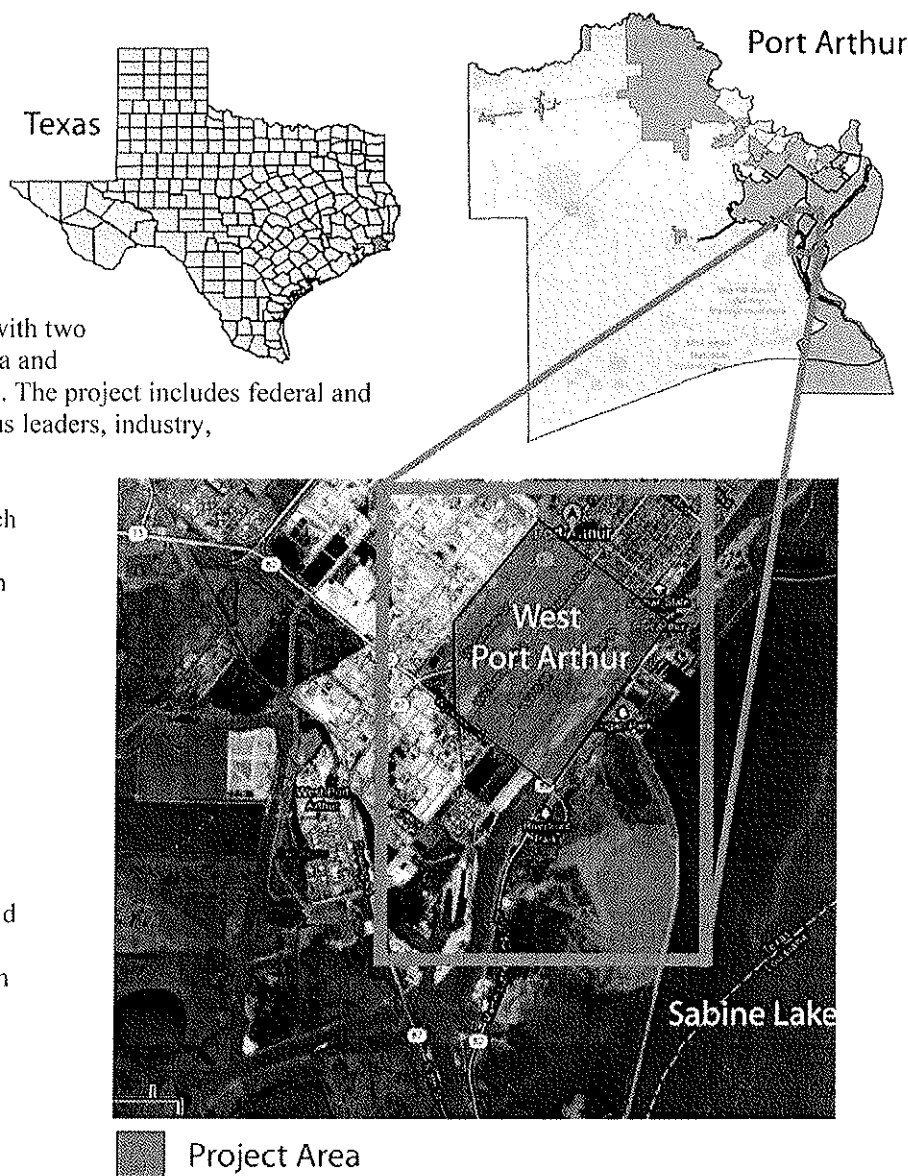
### Project Overview

The EJSC project in Port Arthur, Texas, is implementing a comprehensive, cross-media action plan in the city's Westside Neighborhood, which shares fence lines with two large oil refineries (Motiva and Valero) and an active port. The project includes federal and local government, religious leaders, industry, community leaders, and citizens in a collaborative community-based approach to improve the community's public health and the environment.

The neighborhood spans about 60 blocks and is home to approximately 3,500 people, of which 44 percent are living below the poverty line.

### Project Goals

In early 2010, the EPA held public meetings in Port Arthur and used input from these meetings to develop and implement a comprehensive, cross-media action plan for the Westside community of Port Arthur, Texas.



### Successes

#### **Supported community forums on improving the quality of life for Port Arthur Westside residents:**

The EPA partnered with the City of Port Arthur to hold a 2-day summit with stakeholders to develop a comprehensive approach to address issues. The city agreed to develop and implement a comprehensive plan that would improve the quality of life of Port Arthur's residents. The city, stakeholders of Port Arthur, and EPA Region 6 are committed to finalizing the plan through several carefully managed and broad-based work groups (Environmental Quality and Emergency Response; Housing, Unemployment and Skill Development; Downtown and Westside Revitalization; Community Health; and Energy Efficiency). Each work group includes city officials, industry and community representatives, as well as representatives from all relevant local, state, and federal agencies, and each group has identified several potential projects that will be implemented over the next 3 to 5 years.

#### **Engaged in partnerships with Port Arthur stakeholders and industry leading to a \$1 million award for construction of a Health Clinic on the Westside of Port Arthur Texas:** During a meeting in

September 2011, Administrator Lisa Jackson informed Port Arthur Mayor, Deloris “Bobbi” Prince, that after many months of discussion and coordination, the EPA and the U.S. Department of Justice finalized a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) agreement with the Valero Port Arthur Refinery. This SEP will result in construction of a \$1 million health clinic on the city’s west side.

**Received significant support from Administrator Jackson:** Administrator Jackson met with Port Arthur Mayor Prince to discuss how the city can continue to work effectively with the EPA on EJSC project activities. Administrator Jackson also requested assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development in the effort to provide for relocation and replacement of the Carver Terrace low-income housing complex located in Port Arthur. In addition, Administrator Jackson requested assistance from the Department of Labor to address the persistently high levels of unemployment on Port Arthur’s west side.

**Conducted Healthy Home trainings and health outreach for 60 neighborhood residents:** The EPA provided Healthy Homes training to more than 60 Carver Terrace residents. The training was conducted through a grant to the University of Texas Foundation in collaboration with University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

**Provided emergency response training to 75 neighborhood representatives:** The EPA Region 6 provided workshops on emergency response notification procedures to address concerns raised by neighborhood groups living near the industrial facilities in Port Arthur. The workshops also provided industry representatives and local officials an opportunity to explain the notification procedures after a release.

**Supported air quality and job training and education of more than 100 families on energy conservation:** The EPA awarded a grant to the Tekoa Charter School Environmental Science Lab Project to educate students about the importance of local air quality and the benefits of recycling as a means of improving air quality. Another EPA grant was awarded to the Golden Triangle Empowerment Center Job Training to support an existing job training program being implemented in the Port Arthur area. Furthermore, the EPA educated more than 100 families on energy conservation measures through the Lighthouse Program.

**Provided school chemical cleanout training to more than 30 science teachers:** The EPA met with Port Arthur Independent School District science teachers, school officials, and Veolia Environmental Services (ES) representatives in support of training sessions and local community needs. In addition to donating training expertise, industry donated \$25,000 for services, including chemical disposal.

**Supported revitalization with \$329,598 through Brownfields assessments of 1,300 properties:** The EPA Brownfields Program conducted asbestos and lead-based paint surveys and EPA supported revitalization through Brownfields assessments of 1,300 properties. Region 6 Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) Program is currently providing 27 Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) on city-owned property in the Westside Neighborhood. The TBA Program recently completed an inventory of a 63-block corridor in downtown. In all, the TBA Program has invested \$329,598 in support of environmental assessments in Port Arthur since 2009.